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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Maurice D. Ribble  
9631 Sundown Lane  
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



Dear Mr. Ribble:

This is in reply to your letter to President Clinton regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

You are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward R. Jacobs".

Edward R. Jacobs  
Deputy Chief, Land Mobile and  
Microwave Division  
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosure

Copy to: The President

cc:

CNTL NO - 9301623

Chief, PR Bureau  
Chief, LM&M Division  
Docket Files, Room 222  
Lou Sizemore, Room 857  
P&P Branch File (chron)

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DUE 4-22-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

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04/12/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO. DATE RECEIVED DATE OF CORRESP DATE DUE DATE DUE AT (OFF)

Contact# 160908  
Federal Communications Commission

PRB  
92-235  
1623

April 6, 1993

Ms. Maurice D. Ribble  
9631 Sundown Lane  
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241


Dear Ms. Ribble:

Thank you so much for your letter. President Clinton greatly appreciates the trust and confidence you have expressed in him by writing.

To give your concerns the special attention they deserve, the President has asked me to forward your letter to the Federal Communications Commission. I have asked them to provide you with a prompt reply, but please bear in mind that it may take several weeks to look thoroughly into the concerns you have raised. Should you have any questions after reviewing their response to you, you may write: Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Many thanks for your patience.

Sincerely,



Marsha Scott  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
and Director of Presidential  
Correspondence

20-11-FCC  
X *[Signature]*

160908

January 29, 1993

The Honorable President Clinton  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President

My son and I derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio control model airplanes. This has been a wonderful learning experience for my son who has applied what he learns in school to actual practice. Our relationship has grown closer through this great hobby. Many of our country's leaders and astronauts have started as model airplane enthusiasts and still remain so today.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available and used for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When my son and I, along with many fellow club members, fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio frequencies. If the number of useable frequencies diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become extremely congested and the margin of safety will be greatly diminished.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 pounds. These models themselves

are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to loose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full compliment of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio's but we have considerable investment in our models, radio equipment, flying sites etc. I personally can account for over \$5,000 of investment in the last few years alone. Couple that with the investment of over 200,000 AMA members and other enthusiasts, hobby shop owners and operators, the amount of personal investment is staggering. The hobby also provides many hours enjoyment for myself, my son and the hundreds of thousands of participants and spectators. It also adds to the commercial advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal for the 72-76 MHz band.

*Maurice D. Ribble*

Maurice D. Ribble  
9631 Sundown Lane  
Two Rivers Wisc. 54241

414-7554039 Home  
414-6847881 Work

P.S. My son and I are both members of the Manitowoc Flyers which is a Radio Control Model Airplane Club that encompasses the city's of Manitowoc and Two Rivers Wisconsin and the surrounding area. We are also both members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) which has been the main regulator of official rules for safety and the organization that has worked over the last 50+ years with the FCC on such items as radio frequencies.

We greatly appreciate any help you can provide us with maintaining our current frequencies and keeping this a safe hobby!!! Please feel free to contact me at any time if you need any additional information or have any questions.